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SCHOOL & MASS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

The 20th December, 2024

**Sub.: Implementation of the “Panchasakha Shikhya Setu” in the State of Odisha for revamping school education by promoting volunteerism and collaboration through an innovative citizen-government partnership.**

Odisha, a State rich in cultural and socioeconomic diversity, requires a robust and vibrant school education system that addresses the unique challenges and opportunities rooted in its environment. This can be achieved through leveraging community involvement and innovative educational practices and fostering a forward-thinking education system.

The “Panchasakha Shikhya Setu” will facilitate alumni and others to rebuild schools, enhance the quality of education, and promote community engagement and futuristic education in Odisha.

In order to fulfil the above mentioned objectives and in continuation to this Department Resolution No. 4578/SME., dated the 3rd March, 2018, Resolution No. 3558/SME., dated the 15th February, 2021 and Resolution No. 24078, dated the 10th December, 2021, the State Government has decided to rename the existing scheme of “Mo School Abhiyan” and launch “Panchasakha Shikhya Setu” to encourage individual alumni, alumni associations, groups of persons, institutions, social impact organisations, companies, foundations, CSR activities, philanthropists, and others to contribute to the enhancement of the school ecosystem. They will be provided with a platform to donate funds, materials, and services for the overall development of the schools in the State of Odisha. The programme will aim to prepare the future generation to evolve into dreamers, doers, makers, growers, explorers, experimenters, and entrepreneurs.

**The modalities for implementation of the "Panchasakha Shikhya Setu" would broadly be as follows:—**

1. For the implementation of the Panchasakha Shikhya Setu (PSS) Scheme the existing registered body - Mo School Abhiyan Parichalana Sangathan (MSAPS) will be renamed as Panchasakha Shikhya Setu Sangathan and will serve as the implementing body. The required changes to its bye laws will be undertaken by the Society accordingly. The assets, liabilities, personnel and funds of the existing society will be transferred to the new entity –Panchasakha Shikhya Setu Sangathan.

2. The Society will be headed by the Chief Secretary, Odisha, who shall be the *ex officio* Chairperson of the organization and provide leadership, guidance and overall direction to the programme.

3. The Society will have an Executive Body (hereinafter, "the EB") for running the everyday affairs of the programme supported by a Governing Body (hereinafter, "the GB") and a Board of Advisers (hereinafter, "the BoA"), both of which will comprise, among others, thought leaders, eminent educationists, social scientists, and notable people from the fields of art, architecture, design, advertising, film-making, literature, science and sports. Bye-laws of the Society will specify the composition and function of the EB and GB.

4. Further each District will have a District Level Committee (hereinafter, "DLC"), headed by the District Collector. Bye-laws of the Society will specify the composition and function of the DLC.

5. A State Level Committee (hereinafter, "SLC") will also be appointed and will be headed by the Secretary, School & Mass Education Department. Bye-laws of the Society will specify the composition and function of the SLC.

6. Funds for the implementation of the programme shall come primarily from two sources - contributions from Donors (hereinafter, "Donors") and *twice* the amount of each such contribution to be provided by the State Government subject to maximum contribution of Rs.50.00 lakh from Government as a matching grant (hereinafter, "Matching Grant"). Budget provisions for the annual Matching Grant from the State Government will be made accordingly.

The Society shall receive grants from the Government, PSUs and CSR bodies for the implementation of programmes and personnel. Apart from this, it will also establish stakeholder involvement including Government, local women SHGs, institutions, Corporate Bodies, PSUs to implement programme. To ensure the safety & security, cleanliness, maintenance and sustainability of high school facilities taken under High School Transformation initiative, the society shall ensure engagement of personnel for Housekeeping and Watch & Ward purpose following Government guidelines.

**7.** Donors to Panchasakha Shikhya Setu may include, but not be limited to, individuals, groups of persons, or institutions. Donors may make contributions in terms of money, materials and/or services. In the case of materials and services, there shall be no matching contribution.

**8.** Donors will contribute to a general pool from which funds will be utilized for the Panchasakha Shikhya Setu at the discretion of the Society according to its bye-laws. However, provisions will be made for donors who wish to indicate their preferences (by district, category, etc.) for the use of their contributions. The Society will make every effort (but not be obligated) to accommodate the desires and preferences of the Donors. The list of areas for which a Donor may indicate a preference for the use of their contribution includes, but is not limited to the following:

- To bridge infrastructural gaps such as hostels, labs, libraries, electronic equipment, internet, classrooms, furniture, toilets, clean drinking water, boundary walls, wheelchair ramps, etc.
- Develop sports infrastructure and provide coaching support.
- Ensure the physical and mental well-being of students through annual health check-ups, visits from doctors and counselors, and other programmes.
- Curate, create, acquire, and deliver multi-disciplinary educational content (e.g., documentaries, films, talks) with guidance from experts and entities.
- Foster human and technology-enabled interventions to enhance the educational ecosystem and bring it on par with world standards.
- Address the problem of teacher absenteeism and lack of motivation through innovative training programs, workshops, and prizes.
- Facilitate building an equity-focused, inclusive, joyful, and technology-enabled classroom and school environment.
- Promoting, evaluating, and scaling up innovative practices in the field of education.

- Incubating and piloting innovations by setting up innovation hubs.
- Facilitate exposure visits, exchange programs, and participation in national and international sports, literary, and cultural and other events.

**9.** Contributions shall not be limited to financial or material resources. Panchasakha Shikhya Setu will aim at leveraging the intellectual capital and professional success of the alumni(and other individuals) via contributions in terms of architecting policy, design thinking, teaching methods, teaching empowerments, turning parents and local bodies into key stakeholders, creating knowledge societies, promoting democratic and progressive value systems and adoption of schools.

**10.** Yearly budgetary allocation shall be made by the State Government to meet the financial requirements of the Society such as salaries of approved staff appointed by Government, Project Management Unit, TA/DA, HRA, vehicle charges, contingencies, other expenses etc. in accordance with Government regulations from the specified head. Panchasakha Shikhya Setu can collaborate and raise programme funds from CSRs/ Foundations with due approval from the Department.

**11.** For the implementation of the programme, the Society shall appoint officers, staff and eminent persons having special domain knowledge and expertise in their respective fields as and when required with prior approval of Government.

**12.** Donor contributions and the Matching Grant shall be kept in separate accounts as per Government regulations.

**13.** Monetary contributions for Panchasakha Shikhya Setu will be collected through cheques, electronic transfers and via the Panchasakha Shikhya Setu website. There will be no lower or upper limit to the contributions. Donors will be required to furnish KYC information such as AADHAAR number or PAN number. Non-resident Indians (NRI) will have to provide passport details, PIO or OCI numbers. Further, the Society is authorized to accept donations from foreign entities, both individuals and organizations as per the existing Government rules and regulations.

**14.** There shall be an upper cap of Rs.50.00 lakh on the contribution of the Government for a school irrespective of Donor contribution, individuals, Foundations, or CSRs. The Government contribution to flow only after identification of requirement relating to a particular school(s).

**15.** In cases where a Donor seeks to contribute more than Rs. 20,00,000 (Rupees twenty lakh) in a single tranche, the EB will determine the modalities of transfer and use of funds in consultation with the Donor and the DLC.

**16.** The Society reserves its right to accept contributions only from credible and legitimate sources failing which the Society reserves the right to return the funds.

**17.** The Chief Secretary or any other person authorized by him/her, the Collector or any person authorized by him/her, the Secretary, School & Mass Education Department or any person authorized by him/her may inspect the Educational Institution where the project has been implemented to verify whether the work done meets the qualitative and quantitative outcomes envisaged for the project and is within this stipulated budget.

**18.** The Society shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare annual statement of accounts indicating the income and expenditure for each financial year which shall be subject to audit by an authorised Chartered Accountant and AG(O) /or independent experts authorized by the EC.

**19.** The Society shall submit annually within six months of the closing of the previous year to the School & Mass Education Department, Government of Odisha, a report on the progress of the Panchasakha Shikhya Setu together with an audited statement of accounts and Utilization Certificate of expenditure incurred.

This Resolution supersedes the earlier Resolution No.4578/SME., dated the 3rd March, 2018, No.3558/SME., dated the 15th February, 2021 and No.24078/SME., dated the 10th December, 2021 of this Department.

**Order:** Ordered that the Resolution be published in an Extraordinary issue of the *Odisha Gazette* for general information.

Also ordered that the copies of the Resolution be forwarded to the Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Odisha / all Departments of Government / All Heads of the Departments / All Revenue Divisional Commissioners / All Collectors / Accountant General (A&E), Odisha, Bhubaneswar / All Ministers of Government of Odisha.

By Order of the Governor

SHALINI PANDIT

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government